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birds and reptiles, most of them coming from regions not visited by the previous expedition, while some are from remote localities never before visited by naturalists. After the completion of his studies in Europe, Mr. Heller will return to Washington, to complete his report on the mammals of British East Africa.

#### *THE PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES*

THE second annual meeting of the Pacific Association of Scientific Societies will be held at Stanford University on April 4, 5, 6, 1912. Sessions will be held this year on one or more of the above days by the following eight societies:

The Technical Society of the Pacific Coast.

The Cordilleran Section of the Geological Society of America.

The Seismological Society of America.

Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association.

The Pacific Slope Association of Economic Entomologists.

Pacific Paleontological Society.

The Biological Society of the Pacific.

The California Section of the American Chemical Society.

There will also meet with the Association the LeConte Club and the Mathematical Society of the Pacific Coast.

Friday evening will be used generally for dinners and banquets, and on Saturday evening will be held the general session of the association. President Jordan will give the address of welcome, and among the readers of papers will be Professor A. C. Lawson, University of California, Professor George Hempl, Stanford University, and Director W. W. Campbell, of the Lick Observatory.

The Pacific Association of Scientific Societies was organized in 1910 "to promote co-operation among the constituent societies." It is to make possible the getting together of a number of smaller isolated societies annually at the same time and place. The administrative machinery of the association is an Executive Committee composed of the presidents and secretaries, or their representatives, of the constituent societies. The principal business of this committee is to suggest

time and place of meeting and make arrangements for such meetings.

Nine Coast Societies became members the first year:

The Technical Society of the Pacific coast.

The Cordilleran Section of the Geological Society of America.

The Seismological Society of America.

Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association.

The Pacific Slope Association of Economic Entomologists.

Pacific Coast Paleontological Society.

The Philological Society of the Pacific Coast.

The Cooper Ornithological Club.

California Academy of Sciences.

The second year two more societies became members:

The Biological Society of the Pacific.

The California Section of the American Chemical Society.

The present officers of the association are:

*Chairman of the Executive Committee*, Mr. Otto von Geldern.

*Vice-chairman*, Professor George D. Louderback.

*Secretary-treasurer*, Professor J. N. Bowman.

The first meeting of the association was held at the University of California on March 31-April 1, 1911. The different societies accepting the suggested time and place, held their sessions on the campus; on Saturday evening the general session of the association convened in California Hall. At this session addresses and papers were given by Chairman Otto von Geldern, President Benjamin Ide Wheeler, President David Starr Jordan, Professor Vernon Kellogg, Mr. George W. Dickie and Professor Bernard Moses. The same general plan will be followed this year at the second annual meeting at Stanford University. The work of the various secretaries is greatly facilitated by the committee on arrangements appointed by President Jordan and composed of Professors Townley, Heath and Burlingame.

#### *SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS*

MR. SAMUEL HENSHAW has been appointed director of the Museum of Comparative Zoology of Harvard University.